

## **In the Claims:**

### **Claim 1 (currently amended):**

- 1 1. A flat heat pipe having a vacuum chamber which is provided with an evaporator in contact  
2 with a heating element, and a condenser connected to a cooling device, said vacuum chamber  
3 being provided in a hollow interior with a wick structure, and a predetermined amount of a  
4 working fluid by which an evaporation-condensation cycle is effected;
- 5 wherein said vacuum chamber is provided in the hollow interior with a plurality of heat  
6 conduction pillars;
- 7 further wherein said heat conduction pillars are in contact with an upper wall and a lower  
8 wall of the hollow interior of said vacuum chamber, and said heat conduction pillars are  
9 disposed ~~at or around a hot spot~~ only around a central section of the flat heat pipe so as to  
10 ~~enhance heat transfer~~ allow condensates to be collected around both sides of the upper wall  
11 of the flat heat pipe.

### **Claim 2 (currently amended):**

- 1 2. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, wherein at least some of said heat conduction pillars  
2 have different cross-sectional area and shape from the others.

### **Claim 3 (previously presented):**

- 1 3. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, wherein said heat conduction pillars are made of a  
2 material having a high thermal conductivity.

### **Claim 4 (previously presented):**

1 4. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, which further comprises a plurality of wick  
2 structures arranged alternately with the heat conduction pillars to enhance the evaporation-  
3 condensation cycle.

Claim 5 (previously presented):

1 5. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 4, wherein said wick structures are of a porous medium  
2 made of a sintered metal powder.

Claim 6 (previously presented):

1 6. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 4, wherein said wick structures are of a mesh or metal  
2 spring.

Claim 7 (previously presented):

1 7. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, wherein said heat conduction pillars have a grooved  
2 or porous structure to enhance the evaporation-condensation cycle.

Claim 8 (previously presented):

1 8. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1 which further comprises support pillars disposed to  
2 provide structural support.